

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## HONORING CATHOLIC SISTERS

SPEECH OF

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 22, 2009*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 441, honoring the historical contributions of Catholic sisters in the United States. I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this important resolution.

Catholic sisters have been instrumental in bettering our communities and our society. Their efforts are felt time and time again in my hometown of Cleveland, Ohio. I am forever indebted to the charity and compassion of the Catholic sisters who made a big difference in my childhood and continue to amaze and inspire me today. Catholic sisters have made incredible contributions including, to name just a few, educating our nation's youth, instilling the importance of human rights and dedicating themselves to charitable efforts that help to meet the needs of the underserved. In addition, they serve as reminders of the important contributions of women in the United States and around the world.

My own success in life is due to the love, caring, tutelage and discipline of Catholic nuns who taught me at the many schools I attended in the Cleveland area, including at St. Peter's, Holy Name, Parmadale, St. Aloysius', St. Colman's and St. John Cantius. At each and every grade level, I learned the principles of Christian charity, practiced through the generosity and the humility of nuns who taught me. I would like to pay special tribute to Sister Mary Donna, Sister Leona, Sister Agnes Joseph, Sister Sabina, Sister Valerie, Sister Estelle, Sister Justicia, Sister Concepta, Sister Emmeline, Sister Genevieve, Sister Paulette, Sister Lucien, Sister Judith, Sister Luke and Sister Narcissa. Each and every one of these holy women had an impact on my life, for which I will always be grateful.

I also wish to pay tribute in particular to the benevolent work of Catholic Sisters are Maryknoll Sisters Maura Clarke and Ita Forde, Ursuline Sister Dorothy Kazel, and Maryknoll Lay Missioner Jean Donovan. Sister Dorothy and Jean Donovan were both from my hometown of Cleveland. In 1980 these women of faith were murdered by members of the armed forces of El Salvador while carrying out missionary work in the country. Three of the five officers involved were graduates of the School of the Americas. Their murders resonated with me personally as they did with many of my constituents. We understand that women on missions of social and economic justice take huge personal risks. These women must always be remembered and revered.

I rise in strong support of this bill and urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H. Res. 441.

## HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE LATE MARJORIE D. KOGAN

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 23, 2009*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to pay tribute to the late Marjorie D. Kogan, an outstanding New Yorker who devoted herself to her city and her country throughout her life. With deep sadness but also a profound sense of gratitude for her inspiring example, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join in mourning Marjorie D. Kogan's passing earlier this month at the age of 95.

A remarkably devoted and effective activist and philanthropist, Marjorie D. Kogan made an enduring contribution to the civic life of our nation's greatest city. She dedicated her life to serving others in countless ways, frequently seeking to help those shunned by many elements of society. Whether directing the volunteer program at the Brooklyn House of Detention for Men, chairing a program for adolescent inmates at Riker's Island, or serving as the longtime President of the philanthropic Brand Foundation of New York, she was a tireless and selfless volunteer.

Mrs. Kogan was deeply involved in the political life of New York City. She was campaign chair for her close friend, the esteemed late Federal Judge Constance Baker Motley, the first African-American woman to serve in the New York State Senate and in the office of Manhattan Borough President. Mrs. Kogan served as Executive Aide in the Manhattan Borough President's Office to both Judge Motley and to her successor in that post, the Honorable Percy Sutton.

Marjorie Kogan was a founding member of Manhattan's Community Planning Board Eight, on which she served for many decades. She was appointed by Mayor Abraham Beame to the New York City Board of Corrections. She sought throughout her life to improve the quality of life for her fellow New Yorkers, and bequeaths an enduring legacy of compassion and dedication.

Throughout her long career as a community leader and civic activist, Marjorie D. Kogan remained committed to her family. She was devoted to her late husband Nathan B. Kogan, who predeceased her, and to her sons, Michael and Barton Kogan, and her sister, Jeanne R. Theodore. She was also a wonderful friend whose wit, warmth, and grace will truly be missed by all whose lives she touched.

Madam Speaker, I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the enormous contributions to our civic and political life made by Marjorie D. Kogan, a true humanitarian and philanthropist in the finest traditions of our great republic.

## RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF FRANKENMUTH

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 23, 2009*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize the City of Frankenmuth, Michigan as it celebrates its 50th anniversary on October 1st. A ceremony commemorating the anniversary will be held on that date.

During the 1840s a German missionary named Frederick Wyneken working in the Ohio Valley and Michigan, appealed to Lutherans in Germany for help, citing the need for pastors, churches and schools. Fifteen farmers from Mittelfranken, Bavaria responded to his appeal and traveled to the Saginaw Valley in Michigan. They settled on the banks of the Cass River in 1845 and called their community Frankenmuth. The name means "courage of the Franconians." The following year 90 more settlers arrived from Bavaria and the community grew. A business district started to grow about a mile east of St. Lorenz Church and a dam and mill were built on the river. In 1854 Frankenmuth Township was organized and in 1904 the Village of Frankenmuth was incorporated.

On March 9, 1959 the voters elected a City Charter Commission. The Commission voted unanimously to submit a Charter to the State of Michigan and on July 9, 1959, Governor G. Mennen Williams approved the Charter. After the village residents voted to adopt the Charter, the City was officially incorporated on October 1, 1959. James Wickson served as the first mayor and held office until 1965. At the time of incorporation the City's population was 1,725. Today the population is 4,838. Gary Rupprecht is the current mayor and has held office since 1986.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me and applaud the City of Frankenmuth as they celebrate their 50th anniversary. The community has embraced its German heritage and strives to build on the dreams and hard work of the original settlers. I congratulate the community for their achievements and pray that "Little Bavaria" continues to thrive for many, many years to come.

## UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 22, 2009*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 3548, "to amend the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 to provide for the temporary availability

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

of certain additional emergency unemployment compensation, and for other purposes." Though the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 has allowed us to see the light at the end of the tunnel on our road to recovery, we still have a long road ahead. H. Res. 3548 allows States to extend their helping hand to pull America out of this deep recession.

In the midst of what has been categorized as the longest and deepest economic downturn since the Great Depression, many Americans still find themselves struggling to get by. Although the unemployment rates in some areas around the country have shown signs of leveling off, in my home State of Texas, many are still fighting to get on the right track. Americans of all ethnicities and socioeconomic backgrounds are tired of struggling to feed, clothe, and provide shelter their families. I cite my mentor and predecessor Barbara Jordan who noted, "We are a people trying not only to solve the problems of the present: unemployment, inflation . . . but we are attempting on a larger scale to fulfill the promise of America."

With an unemployment rate in Texas of 8.2 percent, which is just below the national average, we in Texas are working diligently in a legislative capacity for the benefit of our constituents. The unemployment rate of my home district of Houston is just above the state average, at 8.4 percent, and I will not cease to take every effort to combat the problem. Over this past weekend we held our 2nd job fair in three months, where we called upon over 50 public and private sector representatives to bring employment opportunities to those in need throughout the Houston area. I saw lives change that weekend. The American people need a helping hand now; it is not time of partisan antics that delay assistance to those whom we represent.

H. Res. 3548 will allow States to extend the assistance offered to their unemployed constituents so that families may continue their pursuit of the American dream. H. Res. 3548 sets forth a formula for determining if a state is in an extended benefit period and authorizes a state to pay extended compensation to an eligible individual before any additional Emergency Unemployment Compensation, EUC, if such individual claimed extended compensation for at least one week of unemployment after the exhaustion of additional EUC.

#### CONGRATULATING RUSSELLVILLE HIGH SCHOOL FOR ITS GRANT TO PREPARE STUDENTS OF AP TESTING

#### HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 23, 2009*

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Russellville High School for being accepted as an Arkansas Advanced Initiative for Math and Science School.

Beginning with the 2009–2010 school year Russellville High School will be receiving \$750,000 in grant money, to be distributed over the next four years, to help teachers, along with students in properly preparing for the Advance Placement Exams, which take place every May.

These funds will help the students do well on the exams. This is a great honor for the school district that will help develop the skills our students need to excel in a global economy.

Arkansas was one of just seven states selected to receive grant money and Russellville High School was just one of 24 schools chosen in the state. I am proud to support both the students and teachers of Russellville High School and look forward to the academic excellence that will come from Russellville High in the years to follow.

#### RECOGNIZING THE NOMINATION OF BELINDA GEERTSMA FOR THE 2009 ANGELS IN ADOPTION AWARD

#### HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 23, 2009*

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to say that it is a great honor and privilege to nominate Belinda Geertsma for the 2009 Angels in Adoption award. Belinda serves as an international adoption worker for Bethany Christian Services in Holland, Michigan.

One co-worker describes Belinda as "an amazing social worker with genuine passion for the families and children she serves. She is humble, gracious and has a servant's heart."

Belinda has a unique passion for special needs children, and has a remarkable history of finding homes for many children who are considered hard to place. In 2008, of all the international social workers in Bethany's nationwide constellation of offices, Belinda placed the most special needs children with their forever families.

In July of 2009, Belinda traveled to China by invitation of the Chinese Government to assess 41 special needs children in an orphanage in Shanghai. By the end of August of 2009, 31 of these precious children had been matched with a family, and many others were under consideration.

While in China, she was asked to find a family for a 13-year-old girl who desperately wanted to be adopted. In China, children are no longer made available for adoption when they turn 14. Her 14th birthday was only 4 months away. Within a week of being home, Belinda had found a family that was thrilled to adopt this girl.

Belinda is a person who allows herself, through hard work, persistence, and compassion, to cause miracles to happen for children and families. I cannot imagine a better candidate for the Angels in Adoption award.

#### SERVICES FOR ENDING LONG- TERM HOMELESSNESS ACT

#### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 23, 2009*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Services for Ending Long-Term Homelessness Act. The sad

reality our nation faces is that more than a half million Americans do not have a place to call home each night, and half of them are without shelter. This bill will alleviate the widespread problem of chronic homelessness across the country.

According to the Department of Children and Families' most recent report, there are 85,907 persons homeless on any given day. At least 2 million people find themselves homeless at some point each year in our country. There isn't nearly enough shelter for these individuals. In 2007, my home state of Florida alone had 48,000 homeless people, with 14,900 of them families and 7,691 of them chronic cases.

Recently, I heard the story of a 25-year-old mother of three young children in my district, who was running out of options—staying at a hotel in Palm Beach County after fleeing domestic violence in Miami. As she was running out of money, she and her kids—ages 6, 5 and 3—soon would be homeless. But, they were some of the lucky ones. She was referred to The Lord's Place residence for homeless families, where she now lives with her children. As a leader in my district for chronic homelessness solutions, the Lord's Place is a perfect example of the types of establishments that would benefit immensely from this legislation. In her words: "I am here. I am working. I am breathing. And I am grateful."

Throughout our country, over 100,000 people have nowhere to call home for years on end and all too often are confronted with mental illness, substance addiction, life-threatening illness or other serious health problems. The good news is: this bill presents us with an opportunity to put an end to this national crisis that hits home for all of us.

In 2003, the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health recommended the development and implementation of a comprehensive plan designed to create 150,000 units of permanent supportive housing for consumers and families who are chronically homeless. Affordable housing alone can't meet the needs for many people with severe mental illness. This bill will establish funding for supportive housing, affordable housing linked to accessible mental health, substance addiction, unemployment, and other support services as necessary. Permanent supportive housing is cost-effective, and is the soundest available investment of public and private resources to end long-term homelessness.

Current programs for funding services in permanent supportive housing, other than those administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, were not designed to be closely coordinated with housing resources, nor were they designed to meet the multiple needs of people who are chronically homeless. This bill will establish a comprehensive grant program to provide supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals and families that they so badly need. Support services will include mental health services, substance use disorder treatment, referrals for medical and dental care, health education, and services designed to help individuals make progress toward self-sufficiency and recovery. Permanent supportive housing can help the chronically homeless stay off the streets, out of hospitals and jails, and ultimately help them achieve the stability they